

MIMI, A MONKEY, HAS MIND CAPABLE OF HUMAN THOUGHT

Dr. William H. Furness Declares if There Are Such Things as Souls This Animal Has One.

Can a monkey have a mind, capable of development to the point of rational thought? Can a monkey have a soul?

Mimi, who until a few years ago swung idly with her forearms in the palms of the Congo, but who now leads a life of retirement and restraint at Wallingford, smiled at the questions. Mimi can smile. She can also read, write, farm, dance and be generally amusing.

Dr. William H. Furness, biologist, ethnologist, world traveler, author and student of the simian, did not smile. "If there are such things as souls I am convinced Mimi has one," he said. "She has a code of honor, a sense of justice, a capacity for affection, fealty, gratitude and all those noble attributes of mind upon which man's claim to spirituality is based.

Mimi, representing a tendency to appear bored by the turn of the conversation, smiled again, requested the loan of an Everette Leman, which her biographer carried, and applied herself to the illustrated page.

"Some months ago," Doctor Furness resumed, "I returned from Borneo, where I had been studying tribal customs. After a close acquaintance with the Punans, the lowest of the Borneo tribes, I returned to Mimi with an enlarged appreciation of her intelligence. The Punans live in packs, as do wolves, find a wild papaya crop, build dens, stay until the crop is exhausted and then move on to pasture new. They have no 'urge to knowledge'; they apparently are devoid of even the slightest tendency to progress, lacking the smallest speck of tenacity. Nevertheless, the world endows them with spiritual possibilities, accords them divinity, says they have souls, while Mimi, who excels them in many ways, is merely a beast!"

MIMI'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS Mimi is 8 years old and in the divergence and number of her achievements surpasses the average child of her age. She is a chimpanzee. She has been in captivity, or rather, tame, for five years. She strenuously objects to the term "in captivity" and protested when the uninitiated chronicler used it. She lives in a specially constructed two-room, steam-heated "apartment," not a cage, and has the freedom of Doctor Furness' large residence. She accepts and is accepted by the best society and she frequently acts as hostess at afternoon teas and other functions. Her mornings are devoted to exercise and study. The former she takes in the ample grounds about the Furness home. She weeds the flower beds, digs, rakes and hoes. At times she condescends to romp with Roxie, a mere dog that she does not even know the alphabet. Mimi knew that when she was 4.

Mimi is a strenuous advocate of the outdoor life, and at the proper moment intimates to Doctor Furness during the interview that she would enjoy a walk.

"All right, get dressed," Doctor Furness said. "Mimi chattered, the doctor interpreting. "She says she'll be ready in a few minutes. Minutes elapsed. Thus did Mimi reveal the inevitable feminine weakness. Then she appeared. She is an apostle of the utilitarian and affects masculinity in dress. She wears trousers of the simplest design, a frock coat, articles and a cap. She scorns a cane.

LINGERS OVER GRAVE. The party started through the grounds toward the station, Mimi loquacious but sedate. It came to a little mound, under which remains all that was mortal of Borneo, an orang outang of distinction, and Mimi's friend. He died of pneumonia several winters ago. Mimi became silent and lingered. Then she stooped and picked the dead leaves from the grave.

"She will plant pansies there in the spring," Doctor Furness began. "Yellow ones, she's fond of yellow, and so was Borneo, although he could not distinguish the shades of color as Mimi can."

Suddenly Mimi stood, listened and chattered. "She says the train's coming," said Doctor Furness. We could not hear it, but we took her word, shook hands and left.

RELATION AT CRAMP'S

Navy Contract and Trial of Great Northern Please Shipbuilders. Workmen at the William Cramp & Sons Ship and Engine Building Company's plant were elated today at the announcement that the Navy Department had awarded a contract to the concern to build one of the five new torpedo-boat destroyers.

Further rejoicing was aroused among the shipbuilders because they know that the new passenger and freight steamship Great Northern, which they had turned out, had exceeded her speed requirements by more than a knot. This makes the Great Northern the largest and speediest passenger and freight steamship ever constructed on the Delaware River.

The Great Northern was tied up to a wharf at the shipyard this morning, and the work of finishing her interior decorations and furnishings was begun. The vessel is scheduled to leave here on January 21 for a cruise through the Panama Canal to the Pacific coast. She will carry a full passenger list when she leaves. Her sister ship, the Northern Pacific, is being prepared for her trial trip.

AGED POETESS ASPHYXiated

HAVERHILL, Mass., Dec. 14.—With an unfinished Christmas poem upon her desk, Miss Mary L. Barlett, a high school teacher and of local prominence as a poetess, was found dead in her apartment, having been accidentally asphyxiated. She was 74 years of age, and for many years was a teacher of English at the Haverhill High School.

INVASION OF CITY BY RIVAL ELECTRIC COMPANY RUMORED

Report of Negotiations by Philadelphia Electric to Lease Keystone Telephone Conduits Basis of Belief.

Possible invasion by a rival electric company is believed to be responsible for reported negotiations by the Philadelphia Electric Company to lease for a large sum certain unused underground conduits of the Keystone Telephone Company.

Joseph B. McCall, president of the Philadelphia Electric Company, refused to deny or affirm whether such negotiations were under way. He also declined to say whether his company had ever made proposals for such a lease.

Revival of the talk followed the beginning of the city's fight for reduced electric light rates. Testimony relating to rates charged by the Philadelphia Electric Company was given last month in Harrisburg before the Public Service Commission.

For years it has been known generally that only about 50 to 60 per cent. of the total conduits owned by the Keystone Telephone Company are in actual use. It was pointed out today by financiers that the unused conduits, each of which has a capacity of about 400 circuits, would be a valuable asset to any electric company which might care to invade the field here.

The Keystone Telephone Company, which was organized in 1900 under the laws of New Jersey, owns about 12,500,000 or 13,000,000 feet of vitrified-tiled conduits in the city of Philadelphia. The valuation of this property is fixed at about \$6,000,000. Since the negotiations were reported, stock of the company has advanced 100 per cent.

Nathan T. Folwell, president of the company, who declares that there has never been any discussion at meetings of the board of directors regarding possible leasing of the conduits, said that the stock had simply gone up because business was improving.

Keystone common stock closed at 13 on Saturday. On December 7 it was selling at 1 1/2.

Years ago the Philadelphia Electric Company made a tentative proposal to purchase the conduit system for \$2,500,000, the telephone company to pay a rental of \$125,000 per annum for what it used. That proposal was rejected.

The Keystone Telephone Company was granted authority to lay its conduits by an ordinance signed on December 26, 1902, during the administration of Mayor Ashbridge. The company filed a bond of \$50,000. Under the ordinance it is at liberty to lease any of the conduits.

BOOKS—MAKE THE BEST GIFTS

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THE UNSEEN EMPIRE By Atherton Brownell

TWILIGHT SLEEP By Dr. Henry Smith Williams

TIM, The Autobiography of a Dog By Bishop Ethelbert Talbot

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NOTICE OF ERROR

Owing to compositor's error in the Housefurnishings Section in Lit Brothers' advertisement in Sunday, December 13, issue of the Public Ledger, the Casseroles advertised at 49c should have been \$1.49.

ONLY NINE MORE SHOPPING DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS

Gifts for Men and Women \$7.50 Silver Toilet Sets \$5 at Three pieces. Large-size mirror. Initials Engraved Free. Waterman's Fonn. \$2.50 to \$9 in fancy boxes. \$3 Gun-Metal Handle Pen-98c. Three black and red die. FIRST FLOOR, SOUTH

Lit Brothers HATS TRIMMED FREE OF CHARGE Market Eighth Double Yellow Trading Stamps With Every 10c Purchase Until Noon AFTER THAT, UNTIL CLOSING TIME, SINGLE STAMPS

TOYLAND Bids the Little Folks Welcome And Kira-Kingla Himself is Here to Shake Hands With Them All day long this section is thronged with expectant little ones who have come to tell him their Christmas wants—and were ready to supply them at prices that parents will find the most reasonable anywhere.

SHOE SPECIALS AND CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS Footwear Bargains That Are in Every Sense Appropriate Women's \$2.50 & \$3 Shoes, \$1.98

Leather Gifts Always Appreciated \$4 Hand Bags, \$3.25 in pin seal and morocco leather, beautifully lined.

A NEW YORK MAKER'S STOCK OF Handsome Guaranteed FURS A Sale Extraordinary! And Just in Time for Christmas! \$40 Fine Pony Coats...\$25

Stylish Fancy Silks 39c Earlier 65c to 85c, Today. A special reduction! These are some of the most fashionable silks in vogue this winter.

\$4 Party Boxes, \$1.98 Also the new party envelope in long grain, genuine morocco, with four and five fittings.

Beautiful \$50 Fur Sets, \$39.75 Ten individual styles—scarfs in animal effect, single or double fur, also novelty styles.

Handkerchiefs PRICES UNUSUALLY LOW 15c Handkerchiefs, 9c Men's and women's pure linen, also men's fancy colored borders.

Christmas Gloves 75c Duplex 50c Women's and misses' two-clasp Duplex gloves, a double-fabric glove that will wash splendidly.

This Special Holiday Display & Sale of Jewelry & Silverware Teems With Gifts for Everyone

JEWELRY Women's \$20 Watches, \$16.50 14-kt. solid gold; hunting case engraved; Elgin or Waltham movements.

Silverware STERLING SILVER TOILET WARE \$12 to \$35 Brush, Comb and Mirror Sets, \$9.98 to \$30

Opera Glasses ARE VERY NICE GIFTS \$5 Opera Glasses, \$2.49 Only half-inch thick; high-power achromatic lenses.

PETTICOATS: Negligees and Undermuslin December clearance reduction includes many things that are nice to give.

Blouses For Gifts Charming Fashions Specially Priced Styles That You Would Like for Yourself or "to Give."

Hosiery & Underwear Many Nice Kinds for Gifts Women's \$2.50 Venetian Silk Vests, \$1.98

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PERFUMES Are Very Acceptable Denny & Denny Toilet 50c \$1 Waters, assorted odors and scents.

Cut Glass Is Always a Handsome Gift \$5 Pitcher at \$2.99 Pinwheel cutting size; four-pint size.

A BOY'S GIFT \$5 Rain-coats... \$2.85 The smart new slip-on style, of double-texture material with cemented seams.

There Are Many Things Here In That Will Make Some One Happier This Christmas This \$38 \$29.98 Buffet Colonial design, 48 inches, extra heavy top, large glass, double closet. Large linen drawer.

Extension Table Planked top—guaranteed varnish; heavy pillow. Three sizes—\$16 Value, size 6 ft. 43 \$12.98 \$17 Value, size 6 ft. 44 \$13.98 \$20 Value, size 6 ft. 45 \$15.98

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